



# DELVES LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Delves Lane, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 7ES

Head Teacher: Mrs R A Woods

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## READY RESPECTFUL SAFE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week at DLPS. It has been so lovely to see our children enjoying their OPAL play outdoors during the lovely sunshine.

During some class visits, I have been very impressed with children's work on their multiplication tables. Well, done!

### New Class Letter

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, you will receive your child's new class information for September 2024. Children will be having a 'Moving Up' Day on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Letters will be sent out via email.

### Non-Uniform Day in Aid of the Summer Fair

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July we will be having another non-uniform day in school in exchange for a donation for the summer fair. As usual, we ask that children bring a gift (see below) and can wear non-uniform!

Class	Items
Saplings, Seedlings & Roots	Bottles (can adults please deliver alcoholic beverages to the office)
Cherry	Sweets
Hazel	Fun in the sun theme, e.g. sunglasses, inflatable, goggles etc.
Juniper	Bottles (can adults please deliver alcoholic beverages to the office)
Maple	Sweets
Poplar & Willow	Bottles (can adults please deliver alcoholic beverages to the office)
Elm & Birch	Sweets
Pine	Fun in the sun theme, e.g. sunglasses, inflatable, goggles etc.
Oak & Beech	Sweets

### Food Vouchers

School received the seasonal food vouchers this week, they are in the same format as the Spring versions. These have been forwarded by email to parents of children qualifying for benefits related Free School Meals. Your code will expire in September 2024. Please contact the school office if you have any queries.

**PLEASE NOTE WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED FOOD VOUCHERS FOR NURSERY CHILDREN YET.**







## Calendar of Events – **IMPORTANT DATES**

Please see the events scheduled for the rest of the term below. **It is a very busy half term, and we look forward to welcoming parents and carers into school for some events this half term, including Sports Events, the Summer Fair, etc.** Please check out all of the dates we have scheduled in this link: <https://rb.gy/td4yle>

## House Points

Please see our house points for this week.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Griffin</b> 	<b>Unicorn</b> 	<b>Minotaur</b> 	<b>Phoenix</b> 
21.06.24	584	666	<b>707</b>	597

*Well done, Minotaur fantastic news!*

## Celebration Assembly Weekly Awards

Please see our super Stars and Readers this week. We are very proud of all our children, well done!

<b>Class</b>	<b>SOTW</b>	<b>ROTW</b>
Cherry	Kai W & Jay-J	Max & Jazmine
Hazel	Rio	Ella-Mae
Maple	Louie	Riley
Juniper	Poppy	Chloe
Willow	Renea	Darcy
Poplar	Charlotte	Elise
Birch	Daniel	Aria
Elm	Aiden	Layla
Pine	Emily	Chloe
Beech	Martyna	Emilia
Oak	Odunayo	Brooke

## Class Attendance Awards

Well done to Hazel, Elm and Oak Classes! We hope you enjoyed the lovely cakes!

<b>Class</b>	<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Cherry	Reception	95.7%
<b>Hazel</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>98.9%</b>
Maple	Year 2	95.3%
Juniper	Year 2	96.3%

Willow	Year 3	95.2%
Poplar	Year 3	85.4%
Birch	Year 4	86.4%
<b>Elm</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>96.0%</b>
Pine	Year 5	95.0%
Beech	Year 6	90.1%
<b>Oak</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>98.8%</b>

## Opal Update



Can we remind parents that OPAL equipment is not to be used before or after school. Please can you ensure your children are supervised at all times and not playing in the equipment during these times. Thank you.

## Parent and Carer concerns/queries

Teachers and/or Teaching Assistants are available for a brief word at the end of every day, and are happy to make an appointment with you if you need a longer or uninterrupted conversation. If it's hard for you to come into the school, please let us know by phone or email to arrange an appointment.

All classes hold Parents' Evenings to discuss your child's progress in all areas.

If parents and carers wish to speak to our head teacher, Mrs Woods, she is on the gate every Monday and Wednesday morning. She is also available to meet by appointment. Please contact the school office if you wish to make an appointment.

## Unauthorised Absences and Holidays in Term Time from September 2024

New rules for September 2024 re: unauthorised absences - fixed penalty notices can be issued from the beginning of September for **5 days or more absence** (10 sessions) in a 10-week rolling period. This is changing from 7 days or more (14 sessions) in a 12-week rolling period at the moment.

## 1 Overview

Penalty notices are issued as an alternative to prosecution where parents have failed to ensure their child attends school regularly. They can be used in cases where absence has not been authorised by a head teacher.

The notices are used to prevent the need for court action, for example, when support has not been engaged with or is not appropriate (for example, leave of absence during term time). **Changes from September 2024 are shown below.**

## 2 Leave

Head Teachers are unable to grant leave of absence during term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation **would not** constitute an exceptional circumstance.

## 3 Absence

A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued if there are **5 days / 10 sessions** of absence in a period of **10 school weeks** (where absence has not been authorised).

A notice may be issued where the 5-day level of absence has not been reached, for example, if there are several periods of leave.

## 4 Amount

Within a 3-year period:

The first penalty notice is **£160** if paid within 28 days, reduced to **£80** if paid within 21 days.

A second penalty notice is **£160** to be paid within 28 days.

A third penalty notice cannot be issued. **Legal action** may result (for example, prosecution).

For further information please see Durham County Council website page on school attendance or email [AIT@durham.gov.uk](mailto:AIT@durham.gov.uk)

## Safeguarding

Keeping children safe from harm is our number one priority. We will always act upon any concerns individuals have, or any disclosures from children. However, if you have any concerns outside of school, or if you have a concern about a child or young person's welfare, it is essential that you call First Contact on: 03000 267979.

## Reminder - Easy Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to support us on Easyfundraising!

If you haven't already signed up, please could you help DLPS to raise money for our school funds, it's FREE and easy to do, just follow the link or scan the QR code to sign up in 3 easy steps, then all you need to do is shop online as you usually would.

You can raise FREE donations for Delves Lane Primary School, Durham EVERY time you shop online. Just use [#easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/.../delves-lane.../...)! Over 7,000 brands will donate, including all the big names like John Lewis & Partners, BT, Expedia, Argos, ASOS, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more! Please support us:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/.../delves-lane.../...>



# Reminder - Holiday Dates for 2024/2025

Please make a note of our school holidays for term dates for the next academic year. Thank you.

<https://shorturl.at/y1iOA>

## Online Safety

This week's free online safety advice is about ways to sensitively address upsetting news content that children may have seen online.

**SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT**  
A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to military conflicts around the globe, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to upsetting stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

- FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS**  
There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the news, on their phone or tablet. Find out what your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening. Do you know how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen?
- RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE**  
Starting a conversation about upsetting content doesn't have to be the best time to do so. Choosing a time when you're both relaxed and calm is best. You can be a night deeper into the sofa with your young ones and feel more relaxed than you are. A calm response with good news, you can be more open about the bad news and reassurance of what's happening - but it's best to have a calm conversation.
- KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE**  
With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex details. You can be a night deeper into the sofa with your young ones and feel more relaxed than you are. A calm response with good news, you can be more open about the bad news and reassurance of what's happening - but it's best to have a calm conversation.
- EMPHASISE HOPE**  
Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and kindness. Children often feel better when they know they can do something to help. Encourage them to think about ways they can help. Encourage them to think about ways they can help.
- MONITOR REACTIONS**  
All children react differently, of course, and some people might not discuss what they're scared, or try, confused, or surprised. Encourage them to talk about how they're feeling. Encourage them to talk about how they're feeling.
- CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS**  
It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process. Adults can have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children's anxiety and reactions by reacting to what you're saying. As a parent, it's important to be aware of how you're feeling and to be aware of how you're feeling.
- SET LIMITS**  
Discussing bad news with a child can be difficult, even in normal circumstances, but especially so if you're discussing it at the start of the pandemic (or something). It's virtually impossible to have children away from upsetting content completely, but it is important to be aware of the dangers of harmful content and entering someone's home.
- TAKE THINGS SLOWLY**  
Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once. Instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first step a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting event and then build on that as you go. It's important to be aware of the dangers of harmful content and entering someone's home.
- ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS**  
Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is not directly inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they see. Encourage them to discuss what they see. Encourage them to discuss what they see.
- FIND A BALANCE**  
There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones constantly send us push notifications and we're often the first to see the most recent news on social media. Encourage your child to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive news instead of doom-mongering, and making themselves overwhelmed by bad news.
- BUILD RESILIENCE**  
News has never been more accessible. While our phones may be the shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the skills to choose what they see. Encourage them to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive news instead of doom-mongering, and making themselves overwhelmed by bad news.
- IDENTIFY HELP**  
It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to talk to you about what they think, and to let you know if they're worried. Encourage them to talk to you about what they think, and to let you know if they're worried.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Cathy Argue is the director of Health Skills Africa, which is a specialist system that is currently being used by schools and colleges to help children and young people to understand how to give a voice to their own experiences. She will be giving a talk to parents by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they need when they need it.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline\_safety | #NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonline\_safety | @national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is accepted for the date of release: 18.10.2023

We hope you all have a lovely weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

**B Woods**

Mrs B Woods  
Head Teacher